

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-06-24
September 14, 2006

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to grant a deviation request from design criteria outlined in Department Circular DEQ 9, Montana Technical Standards for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (February 2006) to the facility listed in this notice. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft authorization letter and an Environmental Assessment for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft authorization letter and the environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website www.deq.mt.gov.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT NAME:	Hillside Colony P.O. Box 169 Sweetgrass, MT 59484
FACILITY NAME:	Hillside Colony
FACILITY LOCATION:	Section 12, Township 37 North, Range 4 West, Toole County
RECEIVING WATER:	Buckley Coulee
PERMIT NUMBER:	MTG010223

Hillside Colony is an existing, large, Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (Large CAFO) that has applied for permit coverage under the Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES), CAFO General Discharge Permit [MTG010000]. Hillside Colony has submitted design drawings and plans for the construction of a clay-lined, 346,000 cubic foot capacity, liquid waste storage pond. The proposed site for the pond is an area incapable of meeting the Department Circular DEQ 9 design standard [adopted in ARM 17.30.1343(3)(c), pursuant to the Montana Water Quality Act] requiring that a minimum separation of 10 feet between the pond bottom and any bedrock formation must be maintained. Pursuant to the process outlined in DEQ 9 for requesting deviations from specific design criteria, the designer of the waste storage pond has submitted a request, with appropriate technical justification, for a deviation from the depth to bedrock design criteria. This request for a deviation is subject to the public notice procedures of the MPDES permit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS **October 13, 2006.** Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS **October 13, 2006** will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail Dianne McKittrick at WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov.

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue an authorization to this facility within thirty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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